

Amendment and Response

Applicant: Kimberly Ann Newell et al.

Serial No.: 10/028,060

Filed: December 21, 2001

Docket No.: M233.101.101

Title: COMPUTERIZED LITIGATION MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

REMARKS

The following remarks are made in response to the Non-Final Office Action mailed April 17, 2006. In that Office Action, the Examiner objected to claim 50 under 37 C.F.R. §1.75(c), as being of improper dependent form for failing to further limit the subject matter of a previous claim. Further, claims 1-6, 10-17, 19, 20, 22-36, 38-42, and 43-48 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Grow, U.S. Patent No. 6,694,315 (“Grow”) in view of Bedell et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,622,128 (“Bedell”). The Examiner’s indication that claims 7-9, although objected to, would be deemed allowable if written in independent form, and that claims 49 and 51-83 have been allowed, is noted with appreciation.

With this Response, claims 1, 8, and 51 have been amended and claims 7 and 50 have been cancelled. Claims 1-6, 8-49, and 51-83 remain pending in the application and are presented for reconsideration and allowance.

37 C.F.R. §1.75(c) Objection

Claim 50 was objected to under 37 C.F.R. §1.75(c) as being of improper dependent form for failing to further limit the subject matter of a previous claim. Claim 50 has been cancelled.

35 U.S.C. §103 Rejections

Claims 1-6, 10-17, 19, 20, 22-36, 38-42, and 43-48 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Grow, U.S. Patent No. 6,694,315 (“Grow”) in view of Bedell et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,622,128 (“Bedell”).

Independent claim 1 has been amended to include the limitations from allowable claim 7. In view of the above, Applicants respectfully submit that amended independent claim 1 is allowable over the cited references. In addition, dependent claims 2-6, 10-17, 19, 20, 22-36, 38-42, and 43-48, which further define patentably distinct claim 1, are also believed to be allowable over the cited references. Claims 2-6, 10-17, 19, 20, 22-36, 38-42, and 43-48 are also further distinguishable from the cited prior art. Allowance of claims 1-6, 10-17, 19, 20, 22-36, 38-42, and 43-48 is respectfully requested.

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CONCLUSION

In view of the above, Applicants respectfully submits that pending claims 1-6, 8-49, and 51-83 are in form for allowance and are not taught or suggested by the cited references. Therefore, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections and allowance of claims 1-6, 8-49, and 51-83 is respectfully requested.

No fees are required under 37 C.F.R. 1.16(b)(c). However, if such fees are required, the Patent Office is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 50-0471.

The Examiner is invited to contact the Applicant's representative at the below-listed telephone numbers to facilitate prosecution of this application.

Any inquiry regarding this Response should be directed Jeff A. Holmen at Telephone No. (612) 573-0178, Facsimile No. (612) 573-2005. In addition, all correspondence should continue to be directed to the following address:

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CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.8:

The undersigned hereby certifies that this paper or papers, as described herein, are being deposited in the United States Postal Service, as first class mail, in an envelope address to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on this 15th day of May, 2006.

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